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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): HETERO DRUGS LIMITED [IN/IN]; Hetero House, 8-3-166/7/1, Erragadda, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad 500 018 (IN).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): PARTHASARADHI REDDY, Bandi [IN/IN]; Hetero House, 8-3-166/7/1, Erragadda, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad 500 018 (IN). RATHNAKAR REDDY, Kura [IN/IN]; Hetero Drugs Limited (R & D), Plot No. B-80 & 81, A.P.I.E., Balanagar, Hyderabad 500 018 (IN). RAJI REDDY, Rapolu [IN/IN]; Hetero Drugs Limited (R & D), Plot No. B-80 & 81, A.P.I.E., Balanagar, Hyderabad 500 018 (IN). MURALIDHARA REDDY, Dasari [IN/IN]; Hetero Drugs Limited (R & D), Plot No. B-80 & 81, A.P.I.E., Balanagar, Hyderabad 500 018 (IN). MURALI, Nagabelli [IN/IN]; Hetero Drugs Limited, Hetero House, 8-3-166/7/1, Erragadda, Hyderabad 500 018 (IN).
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(54) Title: A NOVEL PROCESS FOR PREPARATION OF CEFPROZIL INTERMEDIATE

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a process for preparing a key intermediate of cefprozil and use of this intermediate in the preparation of cefprozil thereby avoiding impurity-causing self-acylation. [R-(Z)]-[4-hydroxy- $\alpha$ -[(3-methoxy-1-methyl-3-oxo-1-propenyl)amino]] benzeneacetic acid, mono potassium salt is reacted with ethyl chloroformate to obtain mixed anhydride which is then silylated with *N,O*-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide. The silylated compound obtained is reacted with [7-trimethylsilylamino-3-(Z/E-propen-1-yl)-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid]trimethylsilyl ester and deprotected with aqueous hydrochloric acid to give cefprozil.